

STONE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1946

To the Chairman and Members of the Stone Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In presenting my Report to you this year you will observe that it is considerably longer than in the previous three years.

I have retained the format of the presentation of vital statistics, as I consider that this is a form in which an easy comparison can be made, and I do not consider that any detailed analysis of statistics in a population of the size of Stone Rural District can be of much value.

It will be seen that this year the number of births and the number of deaths are exactly the same as last year. The chances that this will occur again are remote, and as with all statistics, when small populations are involved, alarming trends may, when taken over a longer period, show only a minute variant.

The Housing Programme during the year 1945/46 has begun to get into its stride, but the real progress had not reached its peak by December, 1946.

The Water and Sewage Schemes which are wide in their concept and will result, we hope, in an outstanding improvement in the health and comfort of the inhabitants of the area, are now completed on paper but it will be delayed in execution.

There have been no serious outbreaks of illness which have ever reached epidemic size, and the general health of the area has been extremely good.

The results of the Housing Survey are given herewith, and a census of farms producing milk in the area is also appended.

The position as regards diphtheria immunisation is not as satisfactory as last year, but to counteract this there has been, for the first time, no case of diphtheria in the Stone Rural District for the last twelve months.

I wish to place on record my appreciation of the assistance given me by the Sanitary Inspector and his Department, and also of the generous co-operation of the Members of the Rural District Council.

Yours faithfully,

C. GLYNNE OWEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

C. Glynne Owen, M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(London).

Medical Superintendent of the Stone Joint Isolation Hospital, Yarnfield :

C. R. Arthur, M.B., B.S.

Sanitary Inspector and Meat Surveyor :

W. Hawkes, C.R.S.I., who is also Surveyor and Inspector under the Housing and Petroleum Acts, Rodent Officer.

Assistants to Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor :

A. Holmes B. K. Lovatt.

Clerk in the 'Sanitary Inspector's and Surveyor's Department :

E. J. Bevan.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE AREA.

Area (in Acres), 61,565.

Population (estimated), 16,190.

No. of Inhabited Houses, 3,878.

Rateable Value, £106,325.

Sum represented by penny rate, £434 15s. 9d.

BYE-LAWS IN FORCE IN THE AREA.

Bye-laws made by the Council are now in force with regard to the following subjects :—

New Streets.	Common Lodging Houses.
New Buildings.	Dust Bins.
Water Supplies.	Common Lands.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

The names of the staff of the Public Health Department are set out on page 1. No changes have taken place during the past year.

Laboratory Facilities.

The examination of water and bacteriological and pathological material sent by General Practitioners is undertaken by the County Laboratories at Stafford.

Bacteriological and Chemical Examination of Water.

Bacteriological examination of water supplies :—

Satisfactory	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Unsatisfactory	..	..	..	..	..	..	23

Chemical examination of water supplies :—

Satisfactory	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Unsatisfactory	..	..	..	..	..	..	34

Ambulance Facilities.

One ambulance is available, which is jointly held by the Stone R.D.C. and Stone U.D.C., and the vehicle is kept at Stonefields. The Joint Authorities now employ a full-time ambulance driver.

A further ambulance is available for infectious disease patients and is kept at the Isolation Hospital at Yarnfield. It is the property of the Stone Joint Hospital Board.

Hospitals.

The Stone Joint Isolation Hospital Board consists of representatives of Stone R.D.C. and Stone U.D.C. and is responsible for the provision of an Isolation Hospital at Yarnfield.

Mortuary.

Arrangements are still in operation for the reception at the Mortuary, Trent House, Stone, of bodies from the Rural District.

It is anticipated that this facility will be taken over by the Public Health Service in the near future.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supplies.

Progress has been made in connection with affording the remaining parts of the district which are still without a supply of pure and wholesome water. Several schemes have been prepared or are still in course of preparation and are enumerated as follows :

The Eccleshall and Chebsey Water Scheme which supplies Eccleshall, Croxton, Chebsey, Norton Bridge and Shallowford, has been further extended to supply the Council's new Housing Site at Eccleshall, and a further extension at Arnhill, Croxton, which will serve cottages and farm properties in the vicinity.

Samples of water have been taken in connection with various pump and well supplies in Eccleshall and Chebsey and in consequence a considerable number of house connections have been made after the serving of notices.

During 1946 reports were received from the Consulting Engineer, Major Waters, with regard to extensions of the Eccleshall and Chebsey Water Scheme, to supply the districts of Redgreet, Walk Mill, Copmire, Offley Hay, Platt Bridge, Sugnall, Brockton, Slindon; Catshill Cross, Elford, Fair Oak and Wetwood. The remaining parts of the Eccleshall District — Offley Rock, Greatwood Heath, Wootton, Whitley Heath, Cash Lane, Horsley and Garmelow — are to be served by extensions from the Stafford R.D.C. water mains.

If this scheme is granted, practically the whole of the western side of the district will be able to obtain water from a public main supply.

A scheme is also in the course of preparation for supplying the Eastern Areas of the district, namely Fulford, Moss Gate, Cross Gate, Moddershall, Spotacre, Hilderstone, Sharply Heath, Stone Heath, Milwich Heath and Garshall Green. As you are aware, these parts are extremely short of water — particularly the farm premises.

Representations have been received from inhabitants of the village of Mill Meece drawing the Council's attention to the shortage of water in the village.

Provision was originally made for incorporating this village in the Eccleshall Extension Scheme. Owing to the urgency of the matter this section was withdrawn from the scheme and a separate proposal was prepared to supply the village from the Ministry of Supply's main at H.M.S. Cabbala through a meter. It is hoped that this main will be laid in the near future.

It will be recalled that the Yarnfield village is supplied with water by means of five stand pipes which are served by a small low level service reservoir.

Here again representations have been received by the Council for supplying various farms and properties which cannot utilize the existing supply. A scheme is now being prepared to relay the existing main from a new high level reservoir to a point opposite Pool House Farm, Yarnfield.

The question of a supply of water for the village of Aston has been discussed and preliminary plans were prepared for submission to the Stone U.D.C. Negotiations have since broken down and unfortunately the matter is still in abeyance.

Complaints were received from the inhabitants of two cottages and two bungalows at Newcastle Road, Clayton, regarding the unsatisfactory condition of the well from which these occupants obtained their drinking water. Application to the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board was made to permit a metered supply from the main in the Newcastle Road to these premises. This work has now been carried out.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

Considerable extensions to the sewers at Barlaston and Tittensor have been carried out since the cessation of hostilities. However, there is a considerable part of Barlaston which has yet to be dealt with and it is hoped that the remaining part of the scheme will soon be put into operation.

No sewers have been laid in the Stallington—Meir Heath area, for which a scheme was prepared in 1939. The scheme has not yet received the sanction of the Ministry of Health.

At Eccleshall the question of modernizing the plant to the existing Sewage Works has been gone into, but up to compiling this report the work had not been carried out.

Several sewer extensions on the various housing sites have been carried out, namely, Newport Road, Eccleshall, Tittensor, Barlaston and Rough Close.

Public Cleansing.

In June, 1946, delivery was received of two new household refuse vehicles. These vehicles are used to collect household refuse from the premises in the following parishes : Barlaston, Fulford, part of Hilderstone, part of Sandon, the greater part of Swynnerton (including hostels), and the greater part of Stone Rural.

Scavenging and night soil collection in the township of Eccleshall is still carried out by contract.

It is hoped that a further vehicle will be available in the very near future.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Shops and Offices, Smoke Abatement, Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No action has been necessary under these heads.

Camping Sites.

No licences have been issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and as far as can be ascertained no camping has taken place with the exception of the Boy Scouts' Camp at Kibblestone and the Girls' Training Corps' Camp at Cotwalton.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

The open air swimming bath situated in Trentham Park, the water from which has again been submitted for bacteriological and chemical analysis. The water is of satisfactory quality, and the modern purification plant is extremely efficient.

HOUSING.

Housing Statistics.

Number of new houses erected during the year :

1. By the Local Authority	..	..	..	..	22
2. By other Local Authorities	..	..	..	..	Nil
3. By Private Enterprise	..	..	..	..	4

In addition to the pre-war figure of 94 houses owned by the Council, during the war period 10 further houses were erected for agricultural workers, thus bringing the total up to 104.

Rural Housing Survey.

In accordance with Circular 64/44 issued by the Ministry of Health a Rural Housing Survey of the Stone Rural District was carried out during October, 1945, and was subsequently completed during 1946 and the properties affected have been graded as follows :—

Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 5
935	768	640	157

Distribution of new houses erected in 1946 by Parishes.

Parish		Council Houses	Under Construction	Private Enterprise (including conversions)
Barlaston	—	—
Chebsey	—	—
Eccleshall	16	10
Fulford	—	—
Hilderstone	—	—
Milwich	—	4
Sandon	—	—
Standon	2	—
Stone Rural	—	12
Swynnerton	4	10
				1

Inspection of dwelling houses during the year 1946.

1. (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	71
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	138
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under the sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded	40
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	92
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	11

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notice.

Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 8
 Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :
 By owners 4
 By local Authority in default of owners Nil

Proceedings under Public Health acts.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 3
 Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :
 By owners 1
 By Local Authorities after default of owners Nil

Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 1
 Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders Nil

Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil
Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit Nil

MEAT INSPECTION.

Animals for slaughter are brought to the Ministry of Food's Central Slaughter House at Stone. Meat inspection is carried out by the Stone Urban Sanitary Authority.

CLASSIFICATION OF FARMS IN PARISHES.

Parish	Non-designated	Accredited	T.T.
Barlaston	21	23	2
Chebsey	6	13	—
Eccleshall	95	84	3
Fulford	32	20	1
Hilderstone	19	19	1
Milwich	35	27	1
Sandon	52	28	2
Standon	7	12	—
Stone Rural	34	49	4
Swynnerton	39	14	2
Totals	340	289	16

Birth Rate Per 1,000 Population

Still Birth Rate Per 1,000 Population.

Year	Stone R.D.	Eng. & Wales
1946	14.3	19.63
1945	12.8	16.1

Year	Stone R.D.	Eng. & Wales
1946	0.13	0.53
1945	0.54	0.46

	1946			1945			
	Live Births			Live Births			Total Live Births
Total Live Births		M.	F.		M.	F.	220
227	130	97		129	91		
Total Still Births							Total Still Births
2	125	91		118	81		9
Illegit.	5	6		11	10		
Total Births	Still Births			Still Births			Total Births
229	Total	2	0	Total	4	5	229
Infant Death Rate under 12 months	Legit.	2	0	Legit.	3	6	Infant Death Rate under 12 months
Stone R.D. 26	Illegit.	0	0	Illegit.	1	0	Stone R.D. 50
Eng. & Wales 43	Deaths under 12 months	Deaths under 12 Months		Deaths under 12 Months	Deaths under 12 Months		Eng. & Wales 46
	Total	4	2	Total	7	4	
	Legit.	4	2	Legit.	6	3	
	Illegit.	0	0	Illegit.	1	1	

Actual Excess of Live Births over Deaths 227—157 = 70

Death Rate per 1,000 Population

Stone R.D.

Eng. & Wales

Year 1946

9.7

11.5

Year 1945

9.5

11.4

Notifications of Infectious Diseases. Admissions to Yarnfield Isolation Hospital.

	1946	1945
Dysentery	2	20
Typhoid	0	0
Paratyphoid	1	0
Scarlet Fever	30	25
Whooping Cough	22	39
Diphtheria	0	10
Erysipelas	2	3
Smallpox	0	0
Measles	8	125
Pneumonia	14	8
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	0	0

	Urban	Rural
Scarlet Fever	70	19
Diphtheria	0	0
Cerebro spinal Fever	1	0
Paratyphoid	0	1
Dysentery	1	1
Erysipelas	0	3

Deaths from Infectious Diseases.

	M.	F.	T.
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Influenza	3	0	3

Tuberculosis	Total	1946
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Total	1945
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Number on Register	78	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		78	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.
New Cases	3					6	2	1	1	2
Deaths	3					2	1	0	0	1

Analysis of causes of Deaths.

	Male	Female	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	2	3
Tuberculosis, other forms	0	0	0
Syphillis	0	0	0
Influenza	3	0	3
Measles	0	0	0
Acute Polio- myelitis and Encephalitis	0	0	0
Cancer (all sites)	14	10	24
Diabetes	0	0	0
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	7	8	15
Heart Disease	33	17	50
Other Circulatory Diseases	5	1	6
Bronchitis	6	4	10
Pneumonia	2	6	8
Other Respiratory Diseases	0	0	0
Diarrhoea under two years of age	0	0	0
Appendicitis	0	0	0
Other Digestive Diseases	1	2	3
Nephritis	1	5	6
Maternal Causes	0	0	0
Prematurity birth injuries malformations	4	1	5
Suicide	1	0	1
Road Accidents	2	1	3
All other causes	10	10	20
	90	67	157

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION. SCHOOLS. 5-15 age group.

		Total Attending	No. Immunised	Outstanding	Percentage
Yarnfield, C.P.	..	63	41	22	65%
Fulford, C.P.	..	42	41	1	97%
Tittensor	..	36	28	8	80%
Oulton, V.P.	..	56	54	2	98%
Moddershall, C.E.	..	25	16	9	64%
Offley Hay	..	—	—	—	—%
Barlaston	..	51	46	5	90%
Eccleshall Senior	..	—	—	—	—%
Eccleshall Junior	..	167	150	17	89%
Slindon, C.E.	..	11	7	4	63%
Croxton, C.E.	..	24	24	—	100%
Coton	..	—	—	—	—%
Cotes Heath, C.E.	..	21	19	2	90%
Hilderstone, C.P.	..	39	28	11	71%
Chebsey	..	—	—	—	—%
Aston, C.E.	..	40	34	6	85%
Standon, C.P.	..	56	51	5	94%
Sandon, Parochial	....	39	35	4	89%
Swynnerton, R.C.	..	—	—	—	—%

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION. DISTRICT NURSES. 1-5 age group.

Parish	Nurse	Total	No. Immunised	Awaiting	Percentage
Hilderstone	Capewell	164	140	24	85%
Oulton	Ratcliffe	58	52	6	89%
Barlaston	Allen	90	82	8	91%
Eccleshall	Bourne	—	—	—	—%
Croxton	Savage	—	—	—	—%
Swynnerton	Lawrence	—	—	—	—%
Chebsey	Farrell	57	54	3	95%
Sandon	Hamilton	76	60	16	79%
Whitmore	Davies	32	26	6	81%
Blythe Bridge	Martin	There are no children in my part of Stone Area.		There are no children in my part of Stone Area.	